

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15
STR-05 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01
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-----056543 120951Z /15

P 120840Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5004

AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 14371

USMTN

TOKYO FOR HEGINBOTHAM

PASS STR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, MTN, US, RP

SUBJECT: US-RP ECONOMIC "PRE-NEGOTIATION CONSULTATIONS"

REF: (A) MANILA 14097, (B) MANILA 14311

1. AFTER CONSULTATIONS REPORTED REFTEL B, AMBASSADOR VEGA PROVIDED EMBASSY OFFICER WITH A LIST OF TRADE ITEMS WHICH GOP WISHES TO BE CONSIDERED IN CONTEXT OF BILATERAL ECONOMIC NEGOTIATIONS. LIST CONTAINS 23 ITEMS AND INCLUDES BOTH ITEMS WHICH SHOULD BE ADDED TO GSP LIST AND ITEMS WHICH GOP WISHES EXEMPTED FROM COMPETITIVE-NEED PROVISION. COPIES OF THE LIST ARE BEING AIR POUCHED TO KOPP, OFFICE OF TRADE, STATE (INCLUDING COPY FOR LANDE, STR) AND TO PHILIPPINE DESK FOR APPROPRIATE DISTRIBUTION. GOP OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT, SINCE ITEMS
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CONSIDERED FOR GSP MUST IN ANY CASE PASS THROUGH REVIEW PROCESS, THESE LISTED ITEMS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED FOR GSP REVIEW, ALONG WITH OTHERS WHICH THEY MIGHT HAVE, PRIOR TO OCTOBER 3 DEADLINE.

2. PHILIPPINE PANEL ALSO PROVIDED DRAFT MINUTES OF DISCUSSIONS. U.S. SIDE HAS RE-WRITTEN DRAFT TO REFLECT U.S.

POSITION MORE PRECISELY AND COMPLETELY AND TO INCLUDE DETAILS OF DISCUSSIONS ON TRADE ISSUES. PHILIPPINE DRAFT CONTAINED FOLLOWING STATEMENT CONCERNING PHILIPPINE PROPOSAL OFFERING THE POSSIBILITY OF GRANTING "NON-DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT" TO CERTAIN SECTORS OF INDUSTRY WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF EXISTING (PHILIPPINE) LAW: "THE U.S. TEAM VIEWED THE LATEST POSITION OF THE PHILIPPINE PANEL AS A STARTING POINT IN RESOLVING THE IMPASSE ON INVESTMENTS." THIS LANGUAGE WAS NOT REPEAT NOT INCLUDED IN U.S. DRAFT SINCE IT OVERSTATED U.S. RESPONSE TO PHILIPPINE PROPOSAL ON INVESTMENT. AS REFTEL B STATES, U.S. SIDE "INVITED GOP TO COMMUNICATE THE SPECIFICS OF THIS PROPOSAL IN ORDER TO JUDGE WHETHER IT MAY PROVIDE A STARTING POINT TO RESOLVE THE IMPASSE ON INVESTMENTS." AMBASSADOR VEGA STATED THAT THIS WAS NOT REPEAT NOT VERY FORTHCOMING AND THAT HIS PANEL WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT CONSIDER U.S. REACTION AS SUFFICIENT INCENTIVE FOR GOP TO FOLLOW-UP ON HIS "CONCEPTUAL" SUGGESTION. HE ADDED THAT IF HE HAD REALIZED THAT U.S. RESPONSE WAS NO MORE POSITIVE THAN THIS HE WOULD HAVE WITHDRAWN HIS PROPOSAL SINCE "NOT ONE MEMBER OF HIS PANEL" WAS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT ANY DEPARTURE FROM MFN TREATMENT FOR INVESTMENTS. VEGA ASKED THAT THIS ISSUE BE BROUGHT TO ATTENTION OF HEAD OF U.S. DELEGATION HEGINBOTHAM FOR HIS COMMENT, AND EMBASSY OFFICERS PROMISED TO DO SO.

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3. COMMENT: WE DOUBT WE WILL BE ABLE TO PRODUCE "AGREED MINUTES" OF DISCUSSIONS, BUT U.S. AND PHILIPPINE DRAFT MINUTES WILL, NEVERTHELESS, SERVE AS A RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS. COPIES OF THE TWO DRAFTS ARE BEING SENT TO PHILIPPINE DESK FOR DISTRIBUTION TO INTERESTED PARTIES.

4. VEGA IS CLEARLY TRYING TO KEEP OPEN POSSIBILITY FOR FURTHER TALKS, AND BY HIS OWN ADMISSION HE DOES NOT REPEAT NOT HAVE MANY ALLIES IN GOP, ESPECIALLY ON ISSUE OF MODIFYING GOP POSITION THAT INVESTMENTS MUST RECEIVE STRICT MFN TREATMENT. END COMMENT.
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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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From: MANILA USMTN
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TAGS: ETRD, US, RP, MTN
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